

PEARY COMES HOME TO CATCH BAD COLD

Explorer, Immune in Frozen North, Susceptible Here.

HINTS HE'LL TRY AGAIN

Lieutenant Spends First Night Under Own Roof.

Arrives in Washington Unheralded and Unattended, and Takes a Street Car to His Residence, Carrying His Own Valise—Will See President Roosevelt Soon and Report to the Navy Department Immediately.

Back from the frozen arctic, crowned with the glory of "farthest north," Lieut. Commander Robert E. Peary last night slept under his own roof-tree, and two little children who, for sixteen months have been straining their eyes northward, where one of them was born, are the happiest youngsters in all the world.

Mrs. Peary's long vigil ended several weeks ago, when she hurried on to meet her husband. Little Miss Marie Peary and Master Robert were compelled to wait here on the tip-top of expectancy, and, when, shortly after 9 o'clock to-night the front gate of the rambling home on Twelfth street northwest clicked, they sprang from their beds to greet the gaunt, virile man who rushed into the house to clasp them in his arms. Two big tears rolled down the great explorer's cheeks, the boy and girl smiled like the sun in April, and Mrs. Peary hovered about all three, choking with emotion and happiness and joy. No happier homecoming has been known in this city since the return of the explorer, the discoverer of a new world, nor Caesar, triumphant in his conquests, had an ovation to compare with the tender, warm clasps of children's arms which was the homage to Peary.

Came Home Unattended. Unheralded, and accompanied only by his wife, the explorer reached Washington at 9 o'clock, on the Congressional Limited from New York, after an absence of more than sixteen months. In his demure there was no indication that those sixteen months had accomplished more than had Davis, or Frohisher, or Kane, or Nansen. Peary swung through the deserted depot, where his presence was unsuspected even by the station hands, and, carrying his own formidable-looking grip, he boarded a street car for home.

"I didn't really realize how near home it was until I boarded that car," said he with a smile. "Then, all of a sudden, well, you know how those things are." Little Robert, who is three, scarcely touched his supper, because of his tempestuous excitement, and was put to bed under protest at 8 o'clock. But he awakened quickly when his father arrived. Then such a time as they did have. Robert was only a year and a half old when his father went away, and he had changed so much in sixteen months that the explorer discovered in his little son things more precious than he had found in the frozen North. Finally the household quieted down, and the reporters found Lieut. Peary in his parlor.

Too Tired to Talk. "I'm too tired to sit down," he said, "and I've answered all the questions there are, but if I can tell you anything, I am at your service. To-morrow is Thanksgiving Day, and I am going to devote it entirely to my family. I shall not be interrupted for anything, and I shall not receive any callers. I've been away for a long time, and one day at least belongs to my wife and children exclusively."

"I have not made any definite plans. I haven't any special thing to tell you, the President, although I shall do so. I shall not report to the Navy Department to-morrow, as it will be a holiday. Within a few days I expect to return to New York, but that is indefinite as yet, and I may not be able to get away this week. If nothing prevents, I shall return to Washington to spend Christmas with my family."

As he talked, the naval officer with arctic tendencies paced up and down the room. Every now and then he would caress with his feet, unconsciously, a big polar bear skin, mounted, with ferocious jaws and long white hair, which seemed to remind him of the ice drifts and floes and bergs which he had seen behind him for the present, but which haunt his memory. Tusks of the walrus and a few other mementoes of former frigid trips gave to the room a semi-arctic appearance, so that even the Peary coupled the reporters expected to see an Eskimo bob into the room.

Comes Back to Take Cold. Ridiculous as it may be, Peary, who braved the rigors of Greenland like a man nursed on ice, returns to Washington, where the temperature is 20 above zero, and pretty cold at that for local people, to catch a cold.

"You see, sneezed Peary, 'it's like this. Two been up there where the temperature is about fifty or sixty degrees below zero. In Boston and New York it was pretty raw, but when I got to Washington to-night I found it so close that I am taking cold.'"

The reporters, wrapped in heavy overcoats, shivered. "I don't wear an overcoat in this climate," added the explorer. "When I come back from the North, I invariably take cold. However, it is not uncomfortable up there, despite the intense cold. It is simply a question of food and clothing, and I suffered no more from the cold than one does in this climate."

"Do you think that the north pole will be discovered eventually?" he was asked. "Most assuredly I do. There isn't any question about that. It is simply a question now of method."

Think Sledge Is the Thing. Lieut. Peary is still an advocate of the dog and sledge theory. He believes that the pole will be reached by that method, and while he said he did not want to criticize the theories of any other men, he does not believe that the airship or balloon scheme of reaching the great goal is feasible. Peary got within 173 sea miles of the pole, the farthest north ever reached by any man.

side that the difficulties in the way of reaching the pole increase as one goes toward it from the point I reached. I mean that the cold is no more intense; that the open cuts, or clear water in the ice, do not appear to increase nearer the pole. The ice is smoother also as the mainland is left. The discovery of the pole may be summed up in this way. It depends entirely upon whether the dogs and sledges can transport the food for the length of time required to make the trip and return. I am confident it can be done.

May Try It Again. "Will I try it again? In answer to that I will only say that I want to get home from this trip first."

Peary's eye glinted as he said this. It is evident that he will try it again, and that he, for the satisfaction of his own ambition and longing, and the glory of his country and the United States navy, has determined that he is the man who shall find that north pole for which men have searched centuries.

"I am not prepared to say now," he said, "what has been accomplished in the way of scientific research. All the material collected, the observations, &c., are on board the Roosevelt, and even if they were here it would require a long time for everything to be worked out. So far as the results of the trip are concerned, I have nothing more to say. My whole story has been told."

Not to Succeed Endicott.

A Washington Herald man was the first to tell Lieut. Peary that by an order issued yesterday afternoon by the Navy Department he is not to be appointed as chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks. The plum fell into the hands of Harry H. Rousseau, at present a civil engineer at the Mare Island Navy Yard. He will succeed Admiral Endicott when he retires on January 1. The great explorer had nothing to say concerning the appointment. Mr. Rousseau entered the service in 1888.

At this point in the conversation the golden hair of Robert, Jr., appeared from behind the curtains in the door, and he begged the newspaper man:

"Please let me have my papa; please do."

The appeal was too strong and the conversation ended.

PEOPLE OLDEST IN BULGARIA.

Country Has One Centenarian for Every Hundred Inhabitants.

Berlin, Nov. 28.—A German statistician has made a careful investigation to discover in which countries the greatest age is attained. The result shows that the German empire, with 55,000,000 population, has but seventy-eight persons who are more than 100 years old. France, with a population of fewer than 40,000,000, has 213 who have passed their hundredth birthday. England has 146, Scotland 46, Denmark 22, Belgium 5, Sweden 10, and Norway, with 20,000,000 inhabitants, 22. Switzerland does not boast of a single centenarian, but Spain, with about 18,000,000 population, has 49.

The most amazing figures come from the troublesome, turbulent region of the Balkan peninsula. Serbia has 573 persons who are more than 100 years old. Roumania has 1,084, and Bulgaria 3,383. In other words, Bulgaria has a centenarian for every hundred of its inhabitants, and thus holds the international record for old people. In 1892 alone there died in Bulgaria 359 persons who had lived for more than a century.

SHAH OF PERSIA IS ILL.

German Specialist Sent For, Who Will Treat the Ruler.

Teheran, Nov. 28.—It is officially reported that the Shah of Persia is ill, and that a German specialist has been sent for.

PRESIDENT'S CRITICS CALLED

Maj. Penrose, Who Denounced Dismissal of Troops, Must Explain.

May Be Court-Martialed for Speaking Adversely of Superiors—Roosevelt's Position Embarrassing.

Maj. Charles W. Penrose, of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, has been called before the War Department to make an explanation of remarks he made at Fort Reno, Okla., yesterday, when the last of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry were dismissed from the army, without honor, because of the participation of some of the members of the organization in the raid upon Brownsville, Tex., in August. Maj. Penrose was quoted in newspaper dispatches as follows:

"Here goes the last of the best disciplined, best behaved, and best regulated battalion in the United States army."

"Is that statement for publication?" Maj. Penrose, according to the report, was asked.

"It certainly is," he replied, and I will vouch for it anywhere, backed by my army record. I will add that there was but little evidence to convict these brave men. No court in the world would consider the charges seriously."

If Maj. Penrose acknowledges having made this declaration, there will be action taken against him by the department. He can be court-martialed for violating one of the articles of war in the army regulations prohibiting criticism of superiors.

The published report of Maj. Penrose's remarks yesterday, by 30 to 4 votes, decided in an embarrassing position, and if the case is proved against him it may result seriously. The President's position in the Brownsville matter is made still harder by what Maj. Penrose is reported to have said.

SPANISH CABINET RESIGNS.

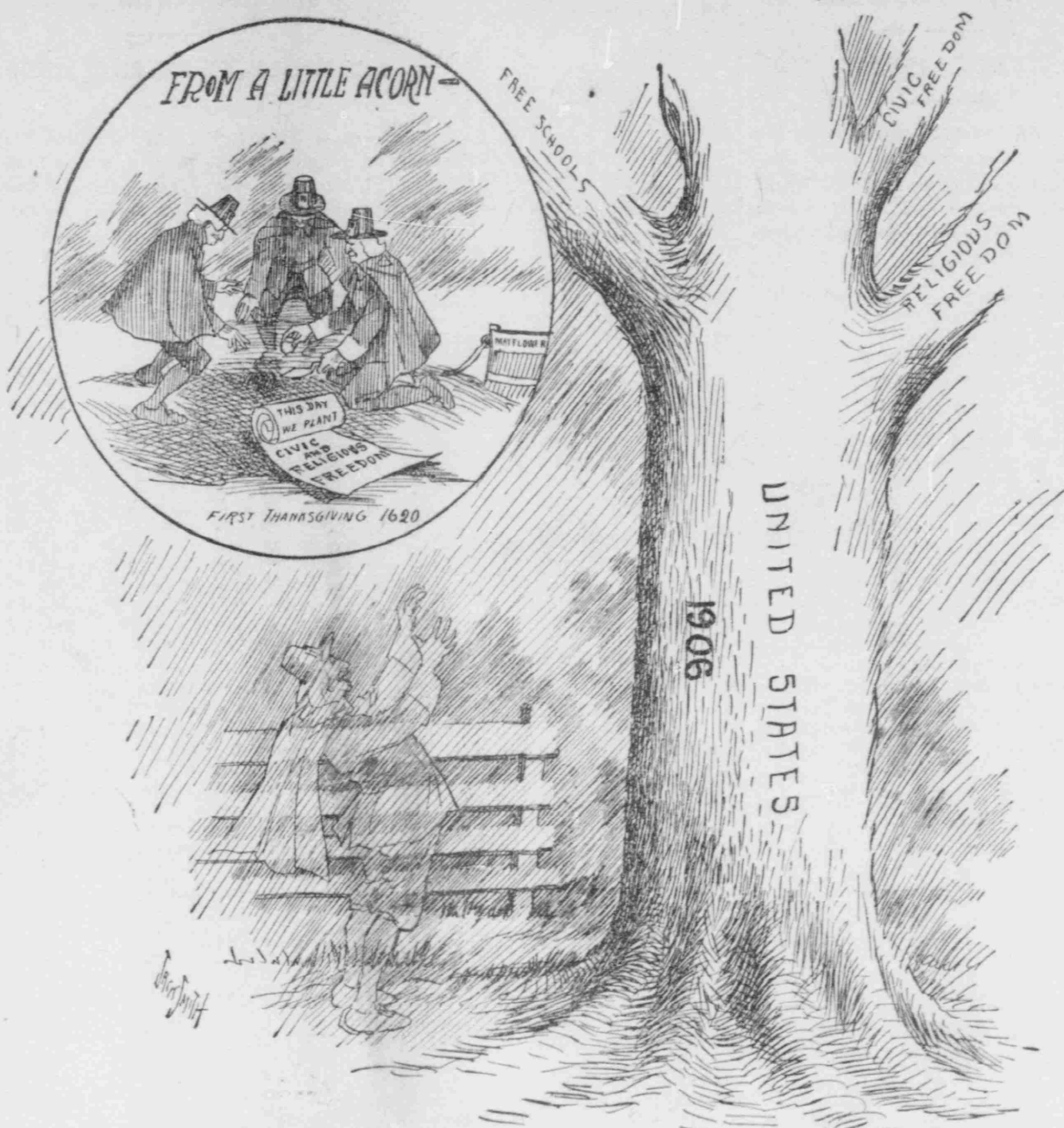
Adverse Vote of Chamber of Deputies Brings About Fall.

Madrid, Nov. 28.—The Cabinet has resigned. This Cabinet was formed by Field Marshal Lopez Dominguez, on July 6, 1906, and succeeded the Cabinet of Senor Moret y Prendergast.

The principal legislation to which the Cabinet was committed was the law of associations, and the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, by 30 to 4 votes, decided to devote the law session to the discussion of the law of associations and the other half to the budget.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The "Chesapeake and St. Louis Limited" leaves Washington 4:05 p. m., with through drawing-room sleeper to Louisville.



-A STURDY OAK DID GROW

SCHMITZ IS ARRESTED

Warrant Served as Soon as Mayor Gets Into State.

RECEPTION IS CALLED OFF

Market Street, San Francisco, a Sea of Mud, So Spectacular Event Is Abandoned—Abe Ruef Talks for the City's Chief Executive to Newspapermen and Reporters.

San Francisco, Nov. 28.—Mayor Schmitz was formally placed under arrest this afternoon at Truckee, which is just over the California line from Nevada. Deputy Sheriff Harry Knox served the warrant. The arrest was made under the indictments charging the mayor with extortion on the French restaurants.

Abe Ruef accompanied Knox. The mayor's train was due in Truckee at 10 o'clock this morning, but was three hours late. Ruef gave Schmitz a hearty greeting. The mayor waived the reading of the warrants. Ruef said to the correspondents:

"You can say that as the mayor entered California he was greeted by beautiful white snow, emblematic of purity and his own innocence; or you can say that his homecoming was a frost, and it is a mighty chilly one at that."

As it has rained heavily all afternoon, and Market street is a sea of liquid mud, the great reception of Mayor Schmitz to-night was not the spectacular event that Ruef had planned.

MOLINEUX VISITS TOMBS.

Drops in at His Old Prison to Pay Respects to the Chaplain.

New York, Nov. 28.—Roland B. Molineux surprised the officials at the Tombs by dropping in to-day for a little visit. He called at noon in the regular visitors' hour.

He had not been there in over three years, and it was his second visit since he left the prison after being acquitted at his second trial for the murder of Mrs. Adams.

"Just dropped in to see Dr. Sanderson, the prison chaplain," he said; "a great friend of mine."

He shook hands with Warden Flynn and several of the keepers, with all of whom he had been in the prison during his long incarceration in the prison.

While he stood in the corridor holding a little levee, Mrs. William Thaw and Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw passed out. Her a visit to Harry Thaw.

"There goes Harry Thaw's wife and mother," said a keeper. "Ah, so that's Evelyn Nesbit, is it?" said Molineux.

"No," he said to reporters. "I did not come here to see Thaw or give him any pointers. Just a call to see my friend, Dr. Sanderson, that's all."

COLONIAL SCANDAL AIRED.

Session of Reichstag Marked by Spirited Attack on Government.

Berlin, Nov. 28.—The alleged scandals in the colonial office were made the subject of debate in the Reichstag to-day. Herr Schaefer, leader of the Clerical party, made a savage attack on the colonial office, and Chancellor von Buelow offered a spirited defense.

Herr Dernburg, the new director of the colonial office, who was appointed to his post from a bank directorship, made his debut in the parliamentary arena. Crown Prince Frederick William was a spectator in the court box.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The "Chesapeake Limited" will leave Washington 1:22 p. m., instead of 11 a. m., and arrive Chicago 9:45 a. m. Effective November 28.

Superior Royal Blue Line Service to Philadelphia and New York, Baltimore and Ohio. Trains run "every other hour on the odd hour"—7, 9, 11, 1, 3, and 5 o'clock. All have drawing-room parlor cars and dining cars. The evening Philadelphia Express leaves at 8 p. m. and midnight New York train at 11:30.

Off Hot-Water Radiators. Minimum expense, maximum amount of heat. Demonstration, 509 9th st.

WEATHER FORECAST.

For the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia—Fair to-day and to-morrow; light to fresh northwesterly winds.

HERALD NEWS SUMMARY.

TELEGRAPHIC.

- 1—Body Blow Given Bailey.
- 2—Fifty Killed in Explosion in Germany.
- 3—Mayor Schmitz Arrested.
- 4—Caruso Given an Ovation.
- 5—Stoker Killed in Mutiny at Sea.
- 6—Chicago Woman Threatened with Death.
- 7—Gillette Confused on Stand.
- 8—Motive for Poisoning in Philadelphia Case.
- 9—Jesse Tyson, of Baltimore, Is Dead.
- 10—Catholics Dedicate Cathedral at Richmond To-day.
- 11—Lou Pagan Accused of Blackmail.

LOCAL.

- 1—Lieut. Peary Reaches Washington.
- 2—Mal. Penrose Must Explain Criticism of President.
- 3—Crazed Youth Tries to Visit Quentin Roosevelt.
- 4—Senator Lodge to Fight Child Labor.
- 5—Britons Ridicule New Spelling.
- 6—John C. Reeside Dead in Baltimore.
- 7—Secretary Wilson Makes Annual Report.
- 8—President Gets Big Turkey.
- 9—Commissioners to Demand Electric Locomotives.

TENNESSEE MUTINY DENIED.

Coal Passers Complained, but Did Not Refuse to Work.

Norfolk, Va., Nov. 28.—Your correspondent is advised to-night that there was nothing like a mutiny aboard the steamer Tennessee at any time during the cruise of that vessel from Panama.

The following is a statement of the facts on which the report was based:

"Owing to the fact that the complement of the force was short when the order was given off Hatteras by the President for a four-hour run under forced draught, the coal passers were open in their complaints, as they had been standing four hours on and four hours off all during the run, instead of the customary four hours on and eight hours off."

"During the run under forced draught, several of the coal passers fainted and had to be carried to the sick bay, where they received medical attention."

"Nobody refused duty, and it is stated positively that nobody was put in the brig in connection with the incident."

Secretary Bonaparte and Assistant Secretary Newberry of the Navy Department went out of town, and so far as can be learned there was no report of the supposed mutiny made to the department.

BAN ON SIMPLIFIED SPELLING.

New York Board of Education Rejects Reformed Methods.

New York, Nov. 28.—Simplified spelling had few advocates in the board of education to-day. It was voted that the new spelling should not be introduced into the public schools. The adverse report of the committee on studies was before the board. Chairman Jonas, of the committee, said that, in his opinion, no form of words should be used in the public schools except such as had the standing of established usage.

There was a public hearing, and the committee was not favorably impressed by the arguments advanced in behalf of the new spelling," he said.

Army-Navy Football Game, Philadelphia, Special Excursion via Baltimore and Ohio.

\$2.50 for the round trip. Tickets good on all trains Friday, November 30, and morning trains December 1, valid returning until December 3. Special train of Dining Cars, Parlor Cars, and coaches will leave Washington at 10 a. m. Saturday, December 1, returning, leave Philadelphia 2:15 p. m. Reservations for the round trip made in advance.

Mumford's Rug Sale at Sloan's. 147 G st. n.w. will be discontinued to-day and started again to-morrow at 11 a. m. and 3 p. m., and continue Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week. Seventy-five desirable rugs collected by Mr. John Kimberly Mumford, the recognized authority, will be disposed of to-morrow. Don't miss this sale. C. G. Sloan & Co., Auctioneers, 147 G st. n.w.

TURN GUNS ON BAILEY

Enemies Spring Sensational Coup in Oil Hearing.

CONSTERNATION IN THE STATE

Attorney General of Texas Demands Books Showing Large Payments of Money to the Senator—Politicians Declare that This is a Final Blow to His Candidacy for Re-election.

Special to The Washington Herald. Fort Worth, Tex., Nov. 28.—The demand of the attorney general of Texas upon counsel for the Waters-Pierce Oil Company that they produce certain books, vouchers, and checks, showing large payments of money to Senator Joseph W. Bailey, in connection with the readmission of the defendant company into Texas after it had been ousted from the State for violation of the anti-trust laws in 1905, has produced a sensation from one end of the State to the other.

Just when Bailey and his adherents thought they had the opposition silenced in Texas there is an outbreak in a new place that has caused general consternation.

The attorney general specifically names the transaction referred to, and says he will introduce secondary evidence if his demand is not complied with.

Nothing has happened in Texas in a decade that has produced such a political sensation. Leading politicians of the State declare to-day that in spite of the fact that Bailey has been declared the nominee of the Democratic party for United States Senator, the probabilities are his name will not go before the State legislature when it meets in January.

TEN DIE OF INOCULATION.

Filipino Prisoners Victims of Experiments with Anti-cholera Serum.

Ten prisoners in Bilibid prison, near Manila, to which offenders against the law in the metropolis of the Philippines are sent, have died as a result of inoculation experiments with anti-cholera serum, according to a dispatch received at the Bureau of Insular Affairs from Gov. Gen. Smith, of the Philippines. The case is being investigated.

The bureau of science of the Philippine government has been experimenting with anti-cholera serum on the prisoners in Bilibid, and it was during the course of these investigations that the men died.

WATERS-PIERCE INDICTED.

Standard Oil Subsidiary Charged with Accepting Rebates.

St. Louis, Nov. 28.—Charging it with having accepted rebates and discriminating in legal freight rates on shipments of oil, in violation of the interstate commerce law and the Elkins act, the Federal grand jury to-day returned two indictments, totalling seventy-two counts, against the Waters-Pierce Oil Company.

A conviction on all the counts would aggregate a maximum fine of \$1,500,000. It was also charged that the Waters-Pierce Company is a subsidiary corporation of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

FUNNY STORIES AT \$5 EACH.

Yarn-spinner Get but Half of What He Demands.

Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 28.—Funny stories at \$5 each have just netted Capt. Louis Jams \$5,000 through a judgment of that amount against the estate of Louis Brokaw, the plover maker, who says Jams brightened his life by his narratives. He put in a claim for \$10,000, urging that the stories were worth \$10 each. The court, however, cut the price.

Army and Navy Football Game—Special Train via Pennsylvania R. R. Leave Washington December 1, 9:45 a. m., running through to Franklin Field, Philadelphia. Returning, leave Franklin Field at close of game. Dining car, parlor car, and vestibule coaches. Round trip Pullman tickets on sale. Excursion tickets, good on all trains November 30 and December 1, up to and including special train, and good returning until December 3, inclusive, sold at rate of \$3.40.

SIX PERISH IN HOTEL FIRE.

Many Lodgers Escape When Barracks Burn.

St. Louis, Nov. 28.—Six men are known to have been burned or smothered to death and three fatally injured in a fire in the Salvation Army's temporary barracks early this morning. The place is one of the largest cheap hotels in the city. A score of others among the 500 lodgers in the three-story building were seriously injured.

Wagon load after wagon load of the victims were taken to the City Hospital and Dispensary. The injured were laid on the sidewalks as rapidly as they were recovered. Fifteen men were badly hurt leaping from the windows with life lines.

The fire started in the bathroom on the second floor and the smoke and flames soon filled every sleeping room in the house. Policemen Reardon and Quinn, who discovered the fire, turned in a still alarm and entered the building to arouse the occupants.

The 500 men in the barracks aroused from deep slumber and, choked by the smoke that poured into every room, did not stop to dress themselves. Many of them could not find the stairways and rushed blindly for the windows, where the life lines were kept.

BEAR PANIC IN WALL STREET.

Real Bruin Creates Excitement by His Howling.

New York, Nov. 28.—A real bear came to Wall street to-day. Up to 3 o'clock he was still there. Whining piteously, disgusted with his surroundings, the genuine article pleaded for release.

An expressman, with the aid of two muscular helpers, tugged at a big dry goods box at 15 Wall street.

The process of removal disturbed every tenant of the big office building. No usual Wall street bear, caught for millions on a bull market, ever set up the cry or raised the hullabaloo that the little cub from Canada did.

People ran out of the offices from every floor of the building to find out who was being murdered. Others surmised a fire and made hurried preparations to flee for their lives. Still others thought that the cub market was in panic.

Finally, the bear was safely landed in a room on the third floor. No assurance of safety, however, was given the bear, who continued to wall, groan, grunt, and whine. The cub's voice touched every register of the musical scale, but lingered usually at high E.

The bear was consigned to Farrington & Co., brokers.

VIRGINIA COLLEGES FAVORED.

General Education Board Allots \$355,000 to Five Institutions.

New York, Nov. 28.—The general education board, which was organized in this city in 1902 for the purpose of aiding struggling colleges, and which received a gift of \$10,000,000 from John D. Rockefeller last year as a foundation for the fund, announced to-day that \$355,000 had been allotted to five colleges.

Besides the allotment of the gifts, a successor to the late President Harper, of Chicago University, was chosen, and two other vacancies on the board were filled. Acting President Henry Pratt Judson, of Chicago University; Edwin A. Alderman, and H. B. Frisell, president of Hapton, Va., Normal School, are the new trustees chosen.

Some of the gifts made to-day were: Richmond College, Richmond, Va., \$150,000; Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va., \$50,000.

The small bequest to Washington and Lee was a library endowment. Two weeks ago the trustees awarded these gifts: Mercer University, Macon, Ga., \$75,000; Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., \$100,000.

KILLED IN MUTINY AT SEA

Stoker Slain, While Passengers Are in Terror of Shipwreck.

Battle Rages for an Hour in Furnace Room of the Mallory Liner San Jacinto.

New York, Nov. 28.—In a mutiny that took place in the stokehold of the Mallory liner San Jacinto on a trip that ended here to-day one man was killed and a dozen severely wounded.

For an hour the fiercest fighting raged between decks while above the passengers, of whom there were a score, stood in terror, too frightened at the prospect of the mutineers' gaining possession of the steamer to know just what to do.

The engineer officers pitched into the mutineers, and when they called for help to subdue the twelve firemen and eighteen coal passers the first officer and the chief steward, with a couple of quarter-masters and the boatswain, went below to help them.

The battle, the half light of the engine-room, fire-room, and stoke-hole, for the fighting was carried on in all three compartments, did not end until Pietro Montanera lay dying under the feet of the fighters and a dozen others lay unconscious.

The affair started while the San Jacinto was off Cape Hatteras on her way from Galveston to this port. About 9:30 o'clock Monday evening Capt. William Evans was informed that the fire-room force was quarrelling among themselves.

Shortly afterward word came that the men would not obey orders, and that steam might not be kept up. That informed the alarm of the passengers, who feared that the vessel would be left without motive power off a dangerous coast in a strong gale.

Capt. Evans called for police assistance last night by wireless from off Atlantic City, and when the San Jacinto docked at sunrise to-day a patrol wagon and the reserves of the Old Slip station, under Police Capt. Hogan, were at the pier.

The body of the fireman was taken to the morgue, and the alleged murderer, Conchero, and the five other prisoners were transferred to the Old Slip station. Later they were arraigned before a United States commissioner.

W. C. Ferguson on Bench.

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 28.—Gov. Pennypacker has appointed William C. Ferguson to be judge of Court No. 3, Philadelphia, vice Thomas Finletter, resigned.

Better have 2 per cent interest and safety in banking dept. of Union Trust Co. 104 E. 12th st. a higher rate with risk. Deposits subject to check at will.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

A longer evening in New York. After November 25 the midnight sleeper from New York to Washington will leave 1:30 a. m. from foot of Broadway street, making it now possible for Washingtonians to attend theater or entertainment and have their entire evening in New York, using Pittsburgh 5:05 p. m. Effective November 25.

CITY DEMOLISHED;

50 DEAD; 1,000 HURT

Witten, Germany, in Ruins After Explosion.

PEOPLE FLEE IN NIGHT

Every Building in Town of 40,000 Dismantled by Shock.

Fire Adds to Horror, and Scores Are Incarcerated—Authorities Order the Villages for Miles Around Scene of the Accident Abandoned, Fearing More Catastrophes—The Cause of the Disaster Is Not Known.

Berlin, Nov. 28.—Witten, a city of 40,000 inhabitants, is in ruins as the result of an explosion in a dynamite factory last night. Fifty persons were killed and 1,000 were injured. Practically every building in the town has been dismantled, and half of them were demolished.

The inhabitants were thrown into a panic, thinking the shock was the result of an earthquake, and fled into the open country.

Meager reports of the disaster have been received here, but each additional bulletin makes the catastrophe the graver. It is said that a great store of dynamite blew up, utterly demolishing the factory and bringing most of the buildings to the ground in ruins. Fire added to the horrors of the night, and the debris was swept with flames while the terror-stricken citizens fled in their night clothes. Many were incinerated.

Witten is a large manufacturing center, and the fact that much property was damaged,